Women who aren't paid well need to ask for raises

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Ludwig goes from 'Hunger Games' to football games

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Meet the man who covers all of the best-sellers

PAGE 15

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Tuesday, August 19
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DREXEL PLAYERS GET A TASTE OF CHINA

PAGE 04

Center Sooren Derboghosian, left, and forward Tyshawn Myles try their hands at chopsticks ahead of the Drexel men's basketball team's trip to China to play exhibition games. Han Dynasty owner Han Chiang taught the team a little about Chinese etiquette and a lot about food. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Meek Mill's freedom plea denied by judge

Courts. The Philadelphia-born hip-hop artist asked for leniency, but a prosecutor said his probation violations were intentional and he needs to do his time and "come out with a change of attitude." PAGE 02

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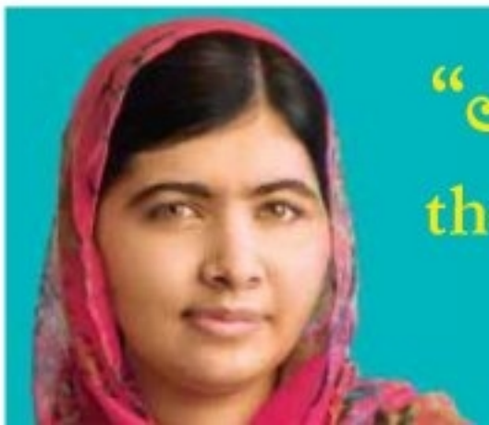

"My story is the story of thousands of children from around the world. I hope it inspires others to stand up for their rights."

—Malala Yousafzai (Nobel Peace Prize nominee)

1 NEWS

Bulletin

"Registration in the School District of Philadelphia kicks off this week for the 2014-15 school year. Parents/guardians may register students at their assigned school daily through Sept. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 2 p.m."

According to a statement from the School District of Philadelphia

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 'Watch Kevin Spacey prank call Hillary Clinton for Bill's birthday'

2 'VIDEO: Ferguson police load Mike Brown's body into SUV (Graphic)'

3 'Miss Texas delivers new worst first pitch ever'

Prosecutor to rapper: Change your attitude

Philadelphia. After a month in a cell 23 hours a day, the Philly rapper pleaded for early release on Monday.

Despite the pleas of past mentors and the presence of more than 40 supporters, a bid to get Meek Mill out of jail at a hearing on Monday was denied.

Mill, born Robert Williams, who has been on probation since 2009 for drugs and gun violations, was ordered detained for violating his probation on July 11.

"This proceeding was illegal," argued Mill's defense attorney Dennis Cogan at the hearing, saying it was improper to revoke Mill's parole without first holding a hearing to notify him of the alleged violations.

The violations Mill was accused were a positive opiates test (allegedly prescribed for a sprained ankle), posing with a gun (allegedly a squirt-gun prop) and scheduling concerts when ordered not to, which Cogan said Mill misunderstood.

But prosecutor Noel Ann DeSantis said the violations of probation were intentional and included shouting at probation officers who told him he could not book concerts at a certain time and posting insults about herself and his probation officer on social media.

"When he's in this courtroom he believes he is Meek Mill, he is not Robert Williams, that probation doesn't apply to him," DeSantis argued. "He needs to accept the facts, be humble and do his three months, and come out with a 360-degree change of attitude."

After denying Mill's motions for early release, Judge Genece Brinkley ordered him to take parenting classes, anger management classes and a drug and alcohol treatment program. If he doesn't complete the programs, he will serve the full six months, Brinkley warned, calling it a "break" for Mill.

Mill also requested to leave protective custody so that he won't be in a cell 23 hours a day and can attend the mandatory classes. The judge granted that request.

Mill's lawyers said they will appeal the judge's decisions to the state Supreme Court.

Quoted

"Putting my business on social sites, I think it was kinda immature. ... I never meant to disrespect the courts, the prosecutors, the probation officers. ... I'm just asking you to give me a chance to do my job and take care of my family." Mill

Visit **Metro.us** for more of what Meek Mill had to say in court.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

New year, new freshmen at Temple

Darrek Mislivets moves into Temple's 1300 Residence Hall dorm on Monday morning as the new class of freshmen arrived on campus ahead of the fall semester. Deena Hench, inset, waits for her son Jordan to move in. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Williamsport. Taney seeks more donations

The Taney Dragons, in dramatic walk-off fashion, stole Sunday night's game from Texas after rallying to score two runs in the fifth inning and two in the sixth to advance in the Little League World Series.

Now, the Dragons are guaranteed at least two more games, keeping them in Williamsport until Thursday. The team is continuing to ask for donations to help defray the costs of travel and other expenses for the team and their families.

"We need your help again for this amazing group of dedicated and smart young people from schools all over the city," according to the Dragons website.

Visit www.taney12ubaseball.weebly.com for a link on where to donate.

METRO

Road to a title

Taney plays Nevada on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

- **A win** gives them a bye into Saturday's U.S. championship game.
- **A loss** means they will have another chance to make it into Saturday's game by winning a Thursday game.

Bucks County

Person killed by Amtrak train

A person was fatally struck by an Amtrak train at the Croydon Station on Monday afternoon and caused more than two-hour delays for SEPTA and Amtrak's service to Trenton, officials said. The person was hit around 1:20 p.m., SEPTA spokesman Andrew Busch said Monday.

Neither the person's gender nor identity have been released.

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Center City

'Drunk History' shot at McGillin's premieres tonight

Tonight's episode of Comedy Central's "Drunk History" was partly shot at McGillin's Olde Ale House on Drury Street in Center City and the bar is holding a watch party.

Both the party and episode start at 10 p.m. Yard's Ales of the Revolution is on tap for $4.

"Drunk History" is a comedy show where drunk narrators slur though recounts of American history events as actors enact the anecdotes. METRO

The scene at McGillin's
FACEBOOK

Han Dynasty owner to team: 'Don't ask for fortune cookies'

University City. The restaurateur helped athletes prepare for real Chinese cuisine.

The Drexel basketball team got a crash course in Chinese food and etiquette on Monday. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Han Chiang, owner and founder of Han Dynasty, repeatedly referred to a creased and scribbled list of what members of the Drexel University men's basketball team shouldn't do while visiting China.

Included: Don't put your wallet in your back pocket; don't get scammed by small store owners; and never hold a door open for someone "because there are so many people you'll never get through."

Drexel's team is traveling to China at the end of August to play some exhibition games.

So Chiang, who studied engineering at Drexel in the late '90s but was "kicked out" before he graduated, gave the team a crash course Monday in Chinese cuisine as well as the country's customs and etiquette.

Chiang, who was born in Taiwan and has toured most of Asia, opened Han Dynasty first in Exton and now operates seven restaurants.

To the student-athletes, he emphasized that "Chinese food Americans eat in America is not Chinese food," he said. "So don't ask for General Tso's chicken.

"And over there, it's just 'food,'" he added.

So what healthy options are available for athletes?

"I don't think Chinese food is good for athletes," he deadpanned.

Nyree Dardarian, Drexel's sports nutritionist, said the athletes would need foods that are "rich in carbohydrates that will give them all of the energy they need to get through games."

Chiang also told the players to always be humble when it comes to compliments, and to always toast a companion before taking a sip of alcohol.

And for God's sake, he said, "Don't ask for fortune cookies. They're from San Francisco."

Quoted

"Food is the universal language."
Dardarian

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Center City

Senior's death was homicide

Medical examiners announced Monday that the death of Lee Stanley, 65, found dead in his home on the 100 block of Mole Street Aug. 8, was a murder, reports say.

He reportedly died of "blunt chest trauma." White powder was on his body and a fire extinguisher was found nearby. METRO

Mayfair

Four kittens found dismembered

Neighbors in Mayfair are seeking police help in finding who tortured and dismembered kittens in a shed on Lardner Street, reports say.

At least four cats were found dead last week. METRO

Shepard Fairey's new mural defaced

Shepard Fairey's recently completed mural "Diamond Lotus" in Fishtown was tagged numerous times over the weekend after it was finished a little over a week ago. Fairey is known for his Obey Giant work and the President Barack Obama "Hope" image. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Center City. Suspects caught in park ranger beating, reports say

Screen shot from amateur video / PPD

Reports say that a suspect in the LOVE Park beat-down on Friday of a park ranger who was attacked and spit on is in custody.

The suspect, reportedly a resident of Pottstown in Montgomery County, was taken into custody at his mother's home and was on his way to a Philadelphia police station, reports said on Monday.

The suspect, who has not been identified, is expected to face assault charges.

Witnesses reportedly identified the suspect and the ranger picked him out of a photo array.

Another individual in the video, a juvenile, was reportedly located by police as well. It is unclear if he will face charges.

According to police, the park ranger, 35, saw between six and eight skateboarders in the Center City park and radioed his supervisor. He then told the group to leave.

In response, a 19-year-old in short braids said, "I ain't f— leaving." The teen then punched the ranger in the face and the two wrestled. The teen then kicked and stomped on the ranger's torso and his head and then spit on him while his two buddies watched. When a man dressed as Jesus Christ — also known as Philly Jesus — approached the scene, the group fled. Police posted a smartphone video from YouTube to seek information on the suspects.

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Autopsy shows police shot Brown six times

Ferguson. The Brown family and protesters have called for the shooting officer's arrest for days.

Dr. Michael Baden points to an autopsy diagram showing where the shots hit Michael Brown. / GETTY IMAGES

An unarmed black teenager whose killing by a white police officer has set off a week of protests and rioting in Ferguson, Missouri, was struck by at least six bullets, a lawyer for the deceased's family said on Monday.

The path of one bullet indicates 18-year-old Michael Brown may have been lowering his head in surrender when the fatal shot hit, said Daryl Parks, the family's lawyer.

Many details surrounding the shooting remain unclear, and federal and local officials have yet to release their own autopsy report.

Parks said the autopsy results clearly showed that the police officer who killed Brown should be arrested. He presented the results at a press conference showing that one bullet hit Brown in the "very top of his head" and another that struck his head exited near his eye.

Quoted

"His head was in a downward position. ... Given those kind of facts, this officer should have been arrested." Parks

St. Louis County Police spokesman Brian Schellman did not respond to a query about why Officer Darren Wilson, 28, had not been arrested. The department is running a parallel investigation to one by the U.S. Department of Justice, which is evaluating the shooting for civil rights violations.

Police have said Wilson said Brown reached into a patrol car and struggled for his service gun when Wilson fired the initial shot.

The National Guard was deployed on Monday to try to restore calm to the area.

REUTERS

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Liberia hunts Ebola victims who escaped

Safety. Police await protective clothing before returning to the shantytown.

UNICEF health workers walk through the streets, going house to house to speak about Ebola prevention. / GETTY IMAGES

Liberia struggled on Monday to track down 17 suspected Ebola carriers who fled quarantine over the weekend, while the U.N. health agency urged affected West African nations to screen all departures in a bid to contain the worst outbreak of the virus.

In the Liberian capital Monrovia, police awaited a consignment of protective equipment before redeploying to West Point — a sprawling ocean-front shantytown — to reopen a quarantine center attacked by a rock-throwing crowd on Saturday, allowing patients, who had been isolated, to get away.

Quoted

"We are very, very concerned about the situation."

Lewis Brown, information minister

"We are very, very concerned about the situation," Information Minister Lewis Brown said, adding that 17 patients were still missing from the center, which was thoroughly looted.

With its health care system and government infrastructure struggling to cope, Liberia has been hardest hit by the highly infectious and incurable disease. **REUTERS**

Iraq

Kurds claim to capture dam

Iraqi Kurdish forces said they recaptured Iraq's biggest dam from Islamist militants on Monday, as the United States launched air strikes to secure what has become a vital strategic objective in fighting that threatens to break up the country.

An employee at the site, however, said Islamic State fighters still held the Mosul Dam, giving them control over power and water supplies and where any breach of the structure would threaten thousands of lives. **REUTERS**

WikiLeaks. Assange hopes to exit London embassy if UK lets him

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, who has spent over two years in Ecuador's London embassy to avoid a sex crimes inquiry in Sweden, said on Monday he planned to leave the building "soon," but Britain signaled it would still arrest him if he tried.

Assange made the surprise assertion during a news conference alongside Ecuador's Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino. But his spokesman played down the chances of an imminent departure, reportedly for health reasons, saying the British government would first need to revise its position and let him leave without arrest, something it has refused to do.

The 43-year-old fled to the embassy in June 2012 to avoid extradition for questioning in Sweden over sex assault and rape allegations, which he denies. **REUTERS**

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Women feel underpaid, yet won't ask for a raise

Pay gap. Glamour editor-in-chief Cindi Leive's take on women's feelings about money might surprise you.

In an era when more women are encouraged to help each other, talking about paychecks is common. But women are finding out they still earn less than men in the same jobs. No wonder the majority of women think they aren't making enough, according to Glamour magazine's 2014 Salary Survey, featured in the September issue. Glamour editor-in-chief Cindi Leive recently spoke about pay trends, negotiating tips and the quest for work-life balance. Read the conversation:

Women are more hopeful about their earning potential, but more than half of the women you spoke to still think they are not bringing home enough bacon. Why?
Women still feel underpaid, and they are right. Women still earn only 77 cents for every dollar a man does. Almost two-thirds of the women we surveyed think that their salary is too low. That's still significantly better than when we started this project 25 years ago. Back then, 77 percent of readers felt they weren't earning enough. It still reveals a general grouchiness among women about their level of pay. Most women feel they could be doing a little better.

Only 43 percent of women ask for raises, according to Glamour's data. Why aren't women negotiating for better pay?
Probably because it is difficult and scary. Plus, people don't know where to get started. One main reason you should ask for a raise: It works. Of the women who asked for a raise, three-quarters of them got one. Asking doesn't guarantee that you will get a raise, but not asking guarantees that you won't.

What tips do you have to offer women (and men) who want to make a business case for a bigger salary or raise?
Do your research. Are you worth more money? Are you genuinely underpaid? Many websites, including Salary.com and Payscale.com, [can help you] find out. In addition, prepare for the salary conversation. ... Bring data about what you've done for your employer. Don't assume your boss knows your career the way you do. You need that memo that shows exactly what you've done, such as how much money you've saved your company. Remember that your supervisor needs something she can show to her supervisor to justify the increase. REUTERS

"WOMEN STILL EARN ONLY 77 CENTS FOR EVERY DOLLAR A MAN DOES," SAYS GLAMOUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF CINDI LEIVE. GETTY IMAGES

Having it all

Why is 'work-life balance,' even if it is elusive at times, so important for women? Do you think the same would be true for their male counterparts?
When I graduated from college, it never in a million years would have occurred to me to ask about work-life balance. In our survey, 89 percent of women said flexibility and hours were more important than salary. That's one thing I admire about the generation: Rather than being cynical, they are aware that personal happiness comes first.

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3 Reasons to invest in a trip to Italy

I've been to nearly 100 countries, but Italy is by far one of my favorites. Here are three reasons why you must visit:

Food and wine

My weight goes up and down so much I'm like a less-funny Jonah Hill, and the blame can be placed squarely on my frequent trips to Italy. But it's worth it. Italian food is very simple and natural, and whether you're a seafood lover, meat eater or even vegetarian or vegan, there's something on every restaurant's menu for you. And it's all delicious, thanks to refined-over-time family recipes and the quality of the local ingredients.

In the past few days I've had impossibly perfect breads and pastries, healthy grilled vegetables and salads, plus spaghetti al dente with buttery and garlicky clams. The list just goes on. And I've washed it all down with vast quantities of tasty and refreshing glasses of wine from various regions all over Italy. This is a fat person's heaven, so I'm indulging.

People and history

Rome, Venice and Florence all have grand histories, so the museums and architecture are truly magnificent, but the local people of Italy are some of the friendliest and most accommodating in the world. After all, despite their past power and influence, this country's economy now relies on tourism. So by being a tourist, you're getting the best of what they have to offer.

Up: Ever since I treated my dad to front-row World Series tickets last year, I can't help but admire David Ortiz who, despite his age, keeps proving himself.

Down: The situation in Ferguson shows racism and race-related anger is alive and well, which is very sad. Somehow I thought we'd evolved past this.

I'm a history buff, so walking through the Roman Forum and Colosseum, seeing the Medici family treasures, canals of Venice, grand castles, villas and piazzas inspires me to no end, but the countryside and coastal towns are even more charming.

Attitude

Unlike other countries that are known for their food and history, Italians are truly welcoming to tourists, especially Americans. They take the phrase "When you're here, you're family" to heart. And I'm not talking about a cheesy restaurant slogan; nearly every person I've encountered, from hotel owners to shopkeepers, bartenders, artists and locals, have embraced this message. They truly love their country and want to share it with the world.

Outside of a few key food phrases, I don't even speak the language, but everyone is so helpful. This is my 12th trip to Italy, but surely not my last.

For exclusive commentary, visit **Metro.us/blogs.**

What Sykes likes this week

1

New photos rumored to be of the iPhone 6 tease all sorts of new features, my favorite being wireless charging. Fingers crossed!

2

Every meal I have eaten here in Italy has been incredible. I must have gained 10 pounds in a week so far, mamma mia!

3

The U.S. stock market is strong again, and while we're heading into a dangerous time of year, if there's no drop, we should see some serious spiking.

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THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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1 More on J-Law and C-Mart

We can call Coldplay singer Chris Martin C-Mart, right? No? OK, maybe it does sound weird. Anyway, if you're like me, you're probably still confused about the whole Jennifer Lawrence dating Chris Martin thing. Lucky for us, The Sun is on the case, getting word from an anonymous source that Martin digs Lawrence because she's the opposite of Gwyneth Paltrow. And this source doesn't pull any punches: "Jennifer is loads of fun and they can't stop laughing when they are together. Chris feels he is dating someone who has everything he's been missing out on in the past 11 years," the source says. "Jennifer doesn't take herself too seriously, and when she is not filming she just wants to hang out and have a good time." But here's the thing: There isn't one person on the planet wondering why he would be attracted to her! She's Jennifer Lawrence, case closed. You got an anonymous source to explain the other half of the equation?

We understand why Chris Martin digs Jennifer Lawrence, but still aren't quite clear on how it works the other way around. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

2 Xtina gives birth to baby with XX chromosome

No, that's not some sort of disease, it was just a clever-ish way of saying that Christina Aguilera gave birth over the weekend to a daughter, her first with fiancé, Matt Rutler. Aguilera later took to Twitter to reveal the baby's name, tweeting, "So proud to welcome our beautiful daughter Summer Rain Rutler into the world." Aguilera also has a 6-year-old son, Max, with ex-husband Jordan Bratman. Of course, the real news is that with the pregnancy no longer an issue, you can go back to criticizing her about her weight, you terrible, terrible people.

3 Chris Pratt before he was all that

Chris Pratt recently posted a photo of himself from his days of being homeless in Hawaii, standing next to the Scooby Doo-emblazoned van he used to call home. "Can't believe I found this picture," the "Guardians of the Galaxy" star wrote on Facebook. "That is the van I lived in! In my hand is the script for the movie that got me out of Maui." Pratt told the Independent that he bummed around Maui, working at the Bubba Gump Shrimp Company before heading to L.A.

Talking points

Hey Biebs, no take-backs online

Justin Bieber still doesn't seem to get that the Internet is forever. Continuing his habit of posting and then quickly deleting pics, Bieber uploaded an Instagram snap of himself and on-again, off-again girlfriend Selena Gomez clearly on again, with Gomez in his arms, giving him a kiss. The attached caption? "Right now everything else is a blur." Speaking of blurs, Biebs took the pic down quickly, but not before it earned 216,553 likes — which, to be fair, is low for him.

'Expendables 3' just expendable?

The disappointing opening weekend box office results for "The Expendables 3" — a not very jacked $16.2 million — may be the most direct example yet of piracy having an impact on Hollywood, as a leaked copy of the action sequel went online three weeks before its release, resulting in more than 2.2 million downloads. "This is really a clear situation where this had an impact," BoxOffice.com's Phil Contrino tells Variety. "It's hard to measure, but the ripple effect, not only of the downloads but of the word-of-mouth that spread ... can be seen in the soft opening." But at least one rival exec thinks it had more to do with the movie just being bad: "There was some audience rejection," the unnamed exec says. "When you go to the well too many times, you're going to run out of gas."

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Ben Stiller has no better way than Twitter for contacting strangers, Tom Daley knows what his fans want to see, Mark Duplass is looking for story ideas and Miley Cyrus is just being Miley.

@RedHourBen: To the young lady from Michigan at dinner... Do you still want that picture?

@TomDaley1994: My 2015 calendar is out now!

@MarkDuplass: Has anyone ever gotten on the wrong flight and didn't discover it until you landed? I feel like this has to happen. And what a moment!

@MileyCyrus: 5 foot bong almost complete. this one is a collab with my f—ing beyond kiewl fanz

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From page to screen

Brenton Thwaites and Odeya Rush get close in the film "The Giver." / THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

Interview. Author Lois Lowry approves of the long-delayed film adaptation of "The Giver."

The adaptation of the young adult novel "The Giver" has been a long time coming. Star Jeff Bridges optioned the rights for it 18 years ago, but it took years to get all the pieces in place and get it made. Author Lois Lowry says she doesn't mind too much, though: "Oddly, if they had been able to do it 18 years ago, it wouldn't have been as good. Jeff was too young to play the [Giver], and now he's terrific in it."

Lowry called Bridges' bond with star Brenton Thwaites "the closest" element in the film to how she imagined it would be when she first wrote the book. One change she likes? The greater role played by Meryl Streep's character, one of the authority figures called "Elders" who clashes with Bridges' Giver character. "She's so good, and it added the element of conflict between Jeff and Meryl's characters, which is not in the book, so it's a whole other level to the movie that I think works very well," Lowry says.

There are other changes here and there, but Lowry says director Phillip Noyce often came to her with questions about the world of "The Giver," and at least one of her recommendations ended up in the film. He asked how the kids' rooms would be decorated, and Lowry's suggestion of a very practical periodic table of the elements poster appears in Jonah's little sister's room.

The other change she made? While watching the editor at work, she voiced her disapproval of a line, and the next time she saw the scene, it was gone. "It had the phrase 'swirling vortex' in it," she says, laughing. "I thought that was a horrible phrase."

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LOIS LOWRY GETTY IMAGES

Censorship

Hitting close to home

The book and the movie focus on the dangers of censorship, a subject Lowry says she's familiar with. Before she wrote "The Giver," she'd dealt with censorship challenges. Despite that, she says people who censor books have good intentions: "They want to protect their children." It's a slippery slope, though. Once "bad" things are taken out of books, good things disappear, too. "If you ... have no pain, no anguish in your lives anymore, you also lose art and music. All of those things that arise out of anguish, [they're] all gone," she says.

"The Expendables 3" is Sylvester Stallone's third outing with the series. / GETTY IMAGES

Q&A SYLVESTER STALLONE: ROCKY PULLS SOME PUNCHES

Head Expendable Sylvester Stallone has never been one for too much humility, and given the success of his "Grumpy Old Men with Guns" franchise, he has no need to be. That can lead to some pretty impressive statements from Sly. Here are some of our favorites from his "Expendables 3" press tour:

On whether he has considered retirement: "Why? I'm not ready to sit at home and play with Pomeranians 12 hours a day. I'm just not ready. Remember in old vaudeville, there was a cane that came out and snatched you off the stage? Well, I'm waiting for that. Until they just hook me off the stage, that's it."

Working with the new, younger cast members: "I remember the first time I came [to Hollywood]. I was like these guys. I get on the elevator, and there's Paul Newman. And you're not prepared for it. You think you're prepared for it. And then you wonder if they feel the same way about us. I'm sure they do."

The departure of Bruce Willis from the franchise: "What happened with Bruce Willis? Well, things didn't work out and then Harrison Ford came along. It's just the way it is. It's nothing personal. It sounded like it got personal, and I'm sorry it did sound that way, but it was just actors talking and things move on."

Aging in general: "Age is a state of 'old' mind. It gets to a point where if you get old enough, you forget how old you are, and that's the best thing. You walk around, kind of like in a fog. So you really don't know how old you are until you find yourself watching 'The Teletubbies' drunk one night and you're like, 'I'm really f—ed up'."

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Talk. Gibson swears he's not the bad guy — in 'Expendables,' that is

AFTER PLAYING THE BADDIE IN "MACHETE KILLS," MEL GIBSON IS THE VILLAIN IN "THE EXPENDABLES 3." GETTY IMAGES

Mel Gibson is the villain in "The Expendables 3," taking on Sylvester Stallone's crew of aging action heroes, but that's news to Gibson himself. "I didn't read it thinking I was the bad guy, you know? In fact, I didn't know I was the bad guy until I saw it last night," he insists. "I thought Dolph Lundgren was the bad guy, so it's a surprise to me and I'm kind of shocked and a little offended. I wanted to be the love interest, but there was no one to love, really."

Joking aside, Gibson was eager to put his own spin on the character of Conrad Stonebanks, a former Expendable turned arms dealer with a Stallone-sized chip on his shoulder. "He's somebody who was subcontracted by his government and then thrown under the bus — a real person." NED EHRBAR

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Alexander Ludwig is a football star in "When the Game Stands Tall," out Friday. / TRACY BENNETT

The breakthrough: Alexander Ludwig

Introduction. Meet a former child actor who's now playing a football titan in "When the Game Stands Tall."

He had no history with football

"I grew up in Vancouver, Canada, so I basically played every sport but football. When I came to New Orleans to film this movie, I didn't know a thing about it; I basically learned it from scratch. I had to learn about it as quickly as possible. Now I'm in love with the sport."

Did he get good in real life?

"I think I could hold my own. Put me in front of the New England Patriots, though, and I wouldn't stand a chance."

Doing his own stunts

"I wanted to do as much as I could on the field, to make it look as real as possible. There were times when it was strenuous. You get your bruises here and there."

Shooting football every day

"Physically, this was the hardest movie I've ever done. We were in New Orleans shooting football every day. It was hot and exhausting. But then you go behind the camera and see the movie you're making, and you see how amazing it looks."

On having noted movie bad guy Clancy Brown play his scary dad

"He is one of the sweetest guys I've ever met, but he is terrifying when you're filming a scene with him. I love working with actors who get really physical and try to make it as real as possible. He had no problem doing that with me. We had a great bond that way."

It's all about the story

"It's great when you can do a movie and get a workout at the same time. But what drew me to the project was the story. I did 'Lone Survivor,' which was really action-packed. But there, too, it wasn't that it was a physically demanding role. I don't want to do some cheesy thing because it has action. I want to care about the story."

Phasing out of younger roles

"With 'Vikings,' it's been great because I get to really show some range and dive into the character. That's what I live for."

MATT PRIGGE
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The facts

Alexander Ludwig

Where you've seen him: A child actor who was in "Race to Witch Mountain" and "The Seeker," he transitioned to older roles — after taking a break for college — with the villainous Cato in "The Hunger Games."

Where he is now: Playing a star high school quarterback with a monstrous father (Clancy Brown) in the football movie "When the Game Stands Tall."

Where he's going: He's reprising the role of Bjorn Ragnarsson on the next season of "Vikings," and he's second billed in the thriller "Final Girl," with Abigail Breslin.

ALEXANDER LUDWIG
WIREIMAGE

‘Don’t judge a book by its cover’ isn’t a good phrase for Peter Mendelsund

At first glance.
The psychology behind designing a cover goes deeper than you may think.

Cover
PETER MENDELSUND IS RELEASING TWO BOOKS, “WHAT WE SEE WHEN WE READ” AND “COVER.”
GEORGE BAIER IV
WHAT WE SEE WHEN WE READ
PETER MENDELSUND

The next time you’re casually perusing your local bookstore and a book catches your eye, chances are you can thank Peter Mendelsund. He’s designed sleeves for everything from “Ulysses” to “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.” Now, 300 of his top designs are showcased in his new book, “Cover.”

Even if a book jacket seems decorative, Mendelsund says there’s always something deeper there.

“Part of it is that I want to make something obscure enough so that on first viewing it doesn't necessarily speak to you, but the cover comes along with you,” he explains. “There should ideally be some sort of moment when you’re reading and you see the cover again and say, ‘Oh, right!’”

In tandem with “Cover,” Mendelsund is also releasing a second book, “What We See When We Read,” about how readers visualize images as they read. When it came to designing the covers for his own books,

Q&A

On ‘What We See When We Read’

Have celebrities played a role in readers’ visualizations?

In terms of movie adaptations, definitely. I think whenever an adaptation is made of a book, being able to see something in the ocular sense crowds out all the other [visualizations of characters] you might imagine until you forget, which sometimes takes years. Sometimes it never happens. I read “Harry Potter” with my kids, and there’s no way I’m getting those [actors] out of my brain.

Quoted: On race

“We tend to colonize books with what we’re familiar with and make characters we can identify with, and we identify with those who are most similar to us.”

Mendelsund

Mendelsund says he had two totally different experiences.

“The idea for ‘Cover’ came to me instantly,” he says. “But for ‘What We See When We Read,’ ... it was really a difficult, agonizing and grueling process.”

Even as e-books continue to be popular, Mendelsund isn’t worried he’ll be out of a job anytime soon. “That’s been one of the wonderful and surprising things: People still love reading physical books. I keep getting asked to make them.”

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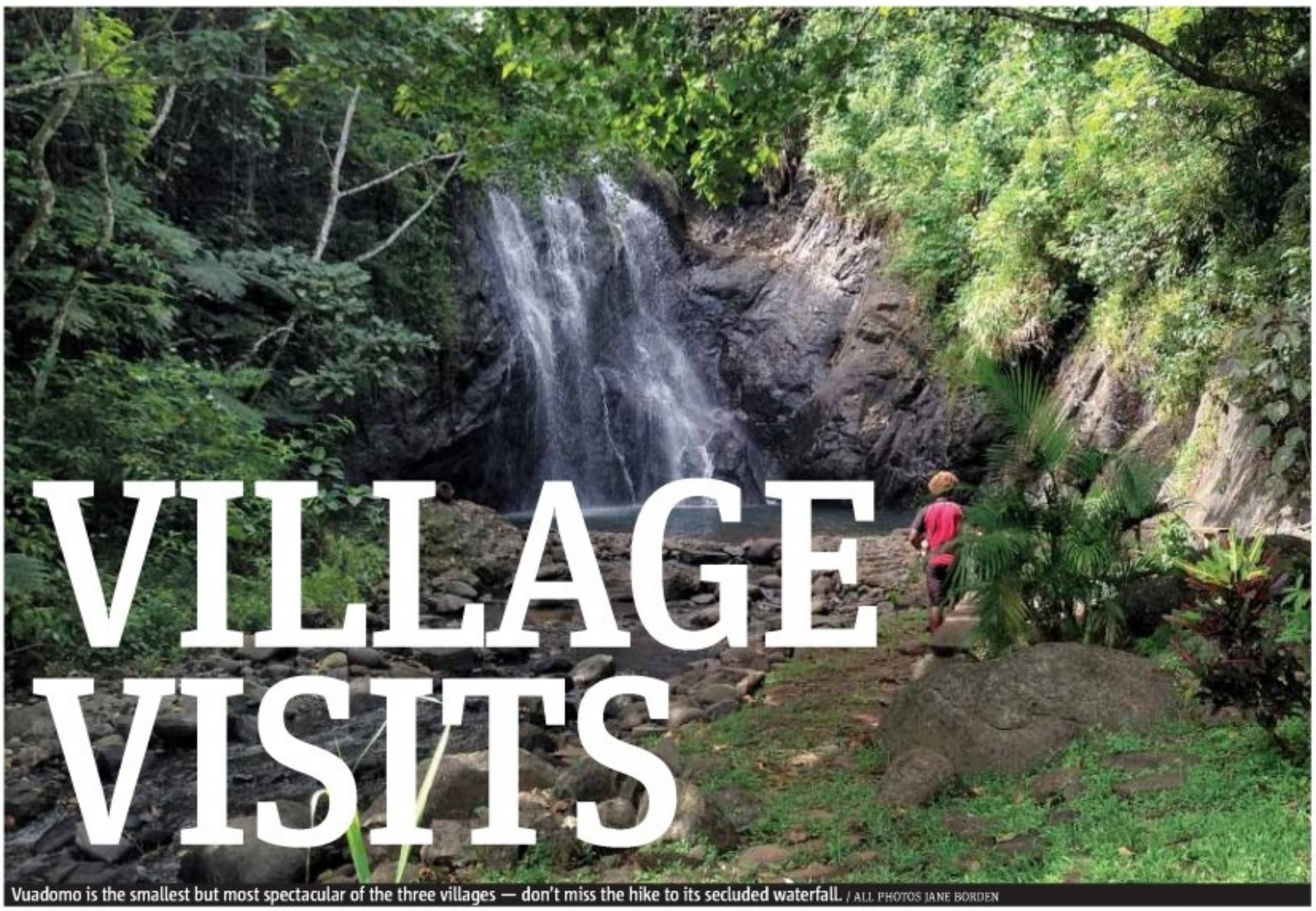
Hospitality

Bukama, Yasawa Island

On the high ground of this small, narrow island is a small school that also serves a neighboring village. Once a week, guests at Yasawa Island Resort & Spa (www.yasawa.com) are invited to meet the children. First, your guide will present the chief or his representative with cava (a nutty local root with a mild sedative quality), which you may share in a ceremonial drink. Then you'll head through the generator-powered village, past women weaving mats toward the bright schoolhouse. During our visit, the children took a break to perform several enthusiastic songs.

VILLAGE VISITS



Vuadomo is the smallest but most spectacular of the three villages — don't miss the hike to its secluded waterfall. / ALL PHOTOS JANE BORDEN

Fiji. Island life here has changed little — and travelers are invited to enjoy the tranquility in a different way than you might expect.

Most native Fijians still live in villages, the kind led by chiefs, dotted by open-air homes and traipsed by roving bands of giggling children. And they welcome visitors.

The South Pacific nation of 322 islands (106 inhabited) — once infamous for cannibalizing vanquished warriors and uninformed missionaries — is now celebrated for its hospitality. When we visited, a man hauling freshly harvested sugarcane stopped us on a rural road and wanted to share a chunk of his harvest.

As happy as they are to have you, however, you can't just show up; certain customs apply. But your resort, hotel or hostel will have a relationship with area villages. Here are the three communities that we found quite welcoming.

Getting there

- Fiji Airways offers direct flights to Nadi International Airport as well as domestic flights to most Fijian cities, including Savusavu just down the road from Koro Sun, and Suva near Nanuku.
- Island Hoppers puddle-jump to the Yasawa airstrip as well as Nanuku's private airstrip.
- Pacific Destinationz provides reliable ground transport on the two large islands.

The villagers are eager to share their crops and catches with visitors.

Vuadomo, Vanua Levu near Pacific Harbor

Directions to this village, from what we gathered: After you pass the wild horses, take a left, drive through a shallow creek and then you'll see it nestled in the rainforest canopy. This was the most spectacular of the villages we visited as well as the smallest, with only 10 homes. The chief welcomed our guide, a staff member at Koro Sun Resort & Rainforest Spa (www.korosunresort.com), and this reporter into his home to accept our cava offering. Then we wandered past the worn lali (a drum used for announcements) and through the one-room church before hiking to a towering waterfall that gushes cool water into a swimming hole.

Nakorovu, Viti Levu near the Coral Coast

When the van pulled up, children began shouting the name "Seru!" Seru, the activities director at Nanuku Resort & Spa Fiji (www.nanukufiji.com) and former trainer of the Fijian rugby team, is the son of Nakorovu's chief and grew up there. The gang ran alongside us down a muddy path to the banks of a creek, where a woman was catching prawns by hand with her daughter, which she does every day, to sell at a nearby market. (Nanuku can also lead a waterfall hike through Nakorovu.) As the van left the village, we were stopped again, this time by a man offering to crack fresh coconuts for us to drink. We happily obliged.

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Back-to-school tech products to keep your child plugged in

Give your kid a leg up in school with one of these new tech toys.

Acer Chromebook 13

If you want to get your teen a computer but don't want to spend a fortune, consider the new Google Acer Chromebook 13. It has all the basic programs your child will need to do research and write term papers but only costs $299. It's also light enough to tote to and from school with ease. **$299, GOOGLE.COM/CHROMEBOOK**

Echo Smartpen

Taking notes has never been easier with this "smart pen" that transcribes handwritten notes to your computer while also recording audio. Were you scribbling notes too fast and missed what your teacher said? No problem. Just tap on that section of your notes with your pen and the audio clip will take you to the exact moment you wrote it. **$119.95, LIVESCRIBE.COM**

Keep your kids ahead of the curve with these new tech products. / BARRETT WEB COORDINATOR

KidFit Activity Tracker

It's never too early to get children interested in exercise. Kids can easily monitor their activity levels with X-Doria's KidFit Activity Tracker. The simplistic wristband programs customized activity targets for children between the ages of 5 and 13. Additionally, the downloadable app provides feedback and a results card to encourage kids to reach their exercise goals. It turns staying active into a fun game. **$49.99, SHOP.X-DORIA.COM**

Petpods

Earbuds get lost all the time, but now there's an adorable storage solution. The miniature petpods come in a variety of different animals including beavers, bears and bald eagles. These cuddly friends come equipped with a velcro pouch in which to store your headphones neatly and can be attached to a backpack, belt loop or safely in a pocket. **$15.99, EDUCATIONOUTDOORS.NET**

PowerCurl

A tangled mess of wires is a nuisance, but the PowerCurl can prevent it. With its silicone cover, this MacBook power-cord wrap allows you to set up your work station without the risk of tripping over wires. **$9.99, QUIRKY.COM**

These days, part of back-to-school shopping is stuffing your child's backpack with the latest tech products in addition to fresh spiral notebooks and folders. Whether you are looking for the latest kid-friendly tablet or a way to help your child stay organized, these are the latest and greatest kid-friendly tech products out now.

JEREMY RODRIGUEZ
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

nabi DreamTab HD8 Tablet

With cool games, social networking sites and an app store, this is a perfect first tablet for kids. It also automatically shuts off at bedtime. **$269.99, SHOP.NABITABLET.COM**

STORAGE KING USA
SELF STORAGE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Monday August 25, 2014 at 12:00 PM, Storage King USA - Lancaster Ave. 5134 Lancaster Ave. Philadelphia PA 19131 (215-878-5594) will hold a public auction. Items will be sold to the highest bidder for cash.

The following units contain household and/or personal goods:

Curtis Fulwood 110 • Hughie Kearney 1136 • Karen Bonds 1150 • Victoria Brock 1184 • Danise Wilson 154 Ashley Aiken 2015 • Wanda Middleton 2048 • Jasmine Wilson 2105 • Deidre Wilson 2106 Eric G. Delahaye 2137 • Wayne Satchell Jr 2162 • Andre Rowe 2183 • Gloria Dawkins 2219 Nicole Richardson 2314 • Sean King 2357 • Oneil Kennedy 2359 • Edward Skeeters 3033 Vivian Reyster 3050 • Tamika Spencer 3067 • Jose Garcia 3114 • Marcus Thomas 3119 Frances Cunningham 3140 • Babacar Dieng 3143 • Elick Wimberley 3146 • Shahdae Holland 4006

STORAGE KING USA
SELF STORAGE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Monday August 25, 2014 at 12:00 PM, Storage King USA - Germantown at 335 E Price Street Philadelphia PA 19144 (215-844-8252) will hold a public auction. Items will be sold to the highest bidder for cash.

The following units contain household and/or personal goods:

GWENDOLYN COOLEY 2017 • COLBY SCOTT 2148 • KEITH CULMER 1266A CLAUDETTE GARDNER 1237 • ANNTONETTE STOKES 1079 • WILLIAM HENRY 2199 SYRITTA MARSHALL-BLUE 2381 • HADIYA BRADDOCK 2297 • ALFRED DAVIS 2040

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Horoscope

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. This is a particularly good time for collaborations or partnerships. You will get a helping hand from an unexpected source.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Keep your personal life out of your workplace. If your domestic affairs are dominating your thoughts, your productivity will suffer.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Make a move toward greater independence. A business of your own, no matter how small in the beginning, will give you an outlet for creative talent.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Don't let your head rule your heart. Remember to share your feelings. The response you get will put you at ease.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. If you see someone treated unfairly, take a stand. You will gain respect and an invitation to work toward a worthy cause.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. A business acquaintance will need a hand. The assistance you offer will be appreciated, but take time out to nurture your needs.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Attending an event will allow you to meet new people and form lasting friendships. A joint venture looks promising.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. You may feel laden with responsibilities. Strive for balance between your work and personal duties. Find a calm place where you can relax.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. You have a remarkable capacity for knowledge. Keep well-informed by participating in intellectually oriented groups.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Don't be nonchalant about your achievements. Speak up. Self-promotion is necessary to let others know what you have to offer.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. It's best to deal with personal matters on your own. Don't let misunderstandings fester. Be the first to offer a compromise.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. You can get a lot accomplished if you tackle your tasks head-on. Find a quiet place. Collaborative efforts will not be in your best interest. EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	8						9	5
		1	2					4
			9			2	7	
		6		7		4	2	1
4				1				9
1	9	3		4		7		
	4	5			8			
6					5	8		
2	3						1	

9			2	1		4		
3	1		7	9			6	
		9	8	5	7		2	
6								3
	7		3	6	2	8		
	4			2	8		5	7
		3		7	6			2

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Cops are not overreacting

Re: 'Police reaction is over the top' (Metro, Aug. 18) To letter writer Kevin Valentine: Is it a Constitutional right to loot and set fire to stores and businesses? The police brought out the riot gear after the protesters gave them reason to.
JOHN COSTA, VIA EMAIL

Get word out on suicide prevention

It's hard to think about Robin Williams without smiling. His energy, his intelligence and his humor were so profound, and his death brings a sadness equally as profound. Robin Williams battled depression and substance abuse. Many others facing the same struggles succumb to the same outcome. Suicide is the leading cause of death for people with mental illness; some even refer to suicide as "death from mental illness." While we mourn his loss, we hope his story is not lost on the millions of other Americans who suffer in silence. We must look carefully at those around us, and inside ourselves, to see if there are warning signs. Most people who commit suicide don't want to die; they just want to stop the pain.
LAURIE MARTINELLI, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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Crossword

Across
1 Musical ensemble
5 Objects to
10 Fiberglass bundle
14 Fermi split it
15 — box
16 Helm position
17 Allot
18 Luxury fur
19 Ariz. neighbor
20 Choir selections
22 Classy
24 Telepathy
25 Draws on
26 Most bland
30 Vishnu's associate
35 Umbrella spoke
36 Ex-coach Parseghian
37 Gauguin's prop
38 Hooded pullovers
41 Ad-libs (2 wds.)
43 Firm refusal
44 Rand of "Atlas Shrugged"
45 Famous numero
46 Paid homage
47 Monster's habitat (2 wds.)
50 Gardening need
53 Ms. Thurman
54 Yellow fruits
58 C-3P0 and R2D2
62 "En garde" weapon
63 Slack off
66 Humdrum
67 Bandy words
68 Silent flyer
69 Corsica neighbor
70 Sarge's pooch
71 Parboil
72 100-meter event

Down
1 Pack firmly
2 AAA suggestions
3 Whit
4 Diner fare
5 Be indiscreet
6 Ms. Lupino
7 Robin's beak
8 Bob and Liddy
9 Archaeology find
10 Big — theory
11 Mme. Gluck of opera
12 Freshman, usually
13 Manual
21 Denver hrs.
23 Ruhr Valley city
25 Actress — Hagen
26 Candid
27 Pharaoh's textile
28 Overhead
29 Jrs.' dads
31 Crone
32 Debate topic
33 Ore deposits
34 Low voices
39 CSA monogram
40 — -craftsy
41 Grand Teton st.
42 Racked up, as debt
44 Completely
48 RN employer
49 Apprehended
51 Singers Hall and —
52 Asimov of sci-fi
54 Tijuana coin
55 Client mtg.
56 Sphagnum moss
57 Prefix for "dynamic"
59 Clay pot
60 Soda-can openers
61 Jahan was one
64 Nicklaus' org.
65 Bracket type

Yesterday's answer

G	U	M	P	■	V	A	T	S	■	■	L	A	D
A	C	E	S	■	A	H	I	K	E	■	K	E	N	O
P	L	A	Y	■	G	E	N	I	E	■	N	E	T	S
S	A	N	C	T	U	M	■	P	R	A	I	R	I	E
■	■	H	O	E	S	■	■	I	N	C	■	■	■	■
L	A	Z	I	E	R	■	S	N	E	A	K	S	I	N
A	L	E	C	S	■	O	T	I	S	■	S	E	M	I
B	I	B	■	■	E	D	I	C	T	■	■	T	A	X
O	K	R	A	■	V	I	N	E	■	G	A	U	G	E
R	E	A	D	Y	I	N	G	■	L	I	M	P	E	D
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B	R	O	G	U	E	S	■	H	A	S	S	L	E	D
R	A	R	E	■	Y	U	K	O	N	■	S	I	D	E
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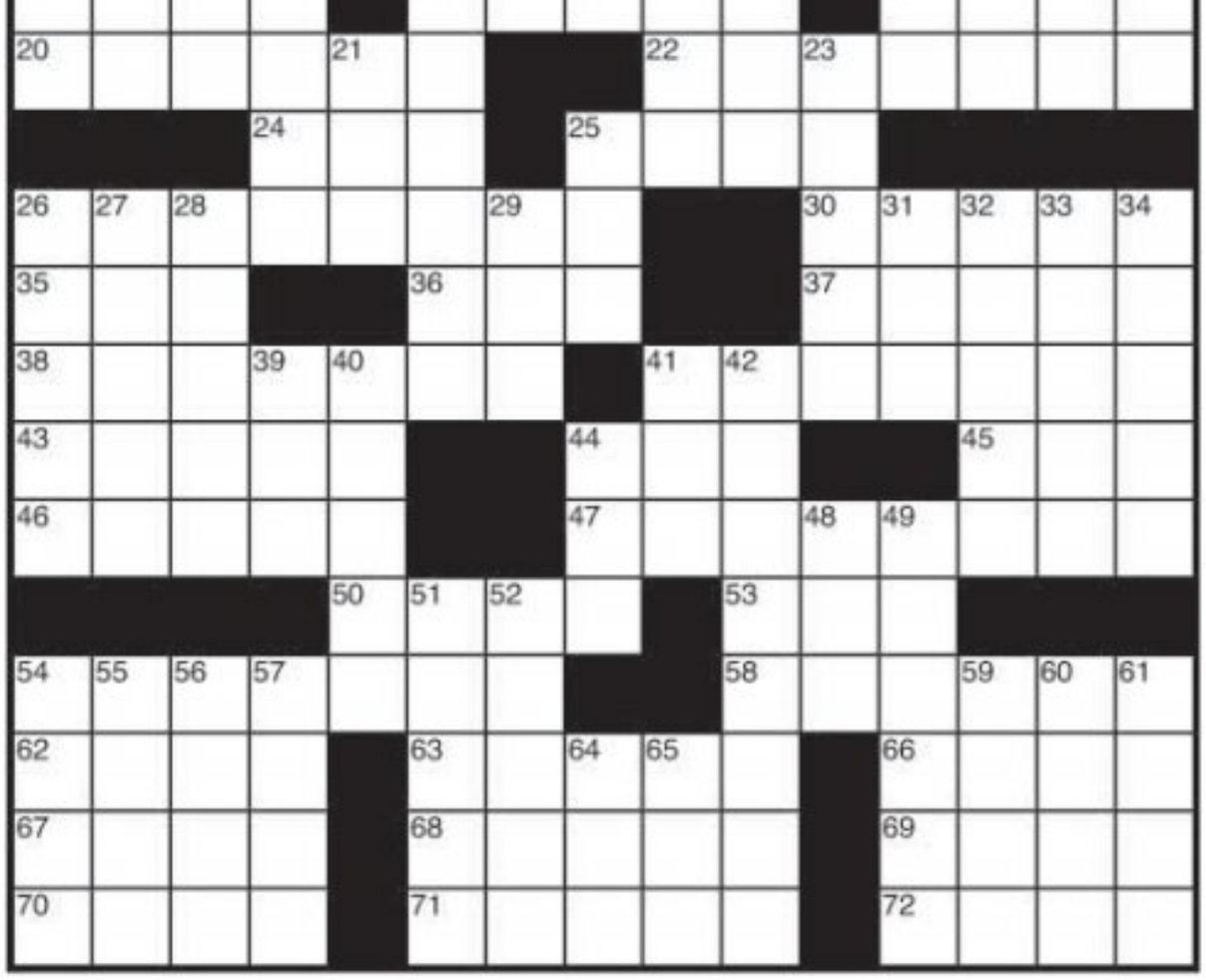

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MO'NE DAVIS HYPE IS GREAT, WHILE IT LASTS

The voice of Philly sports

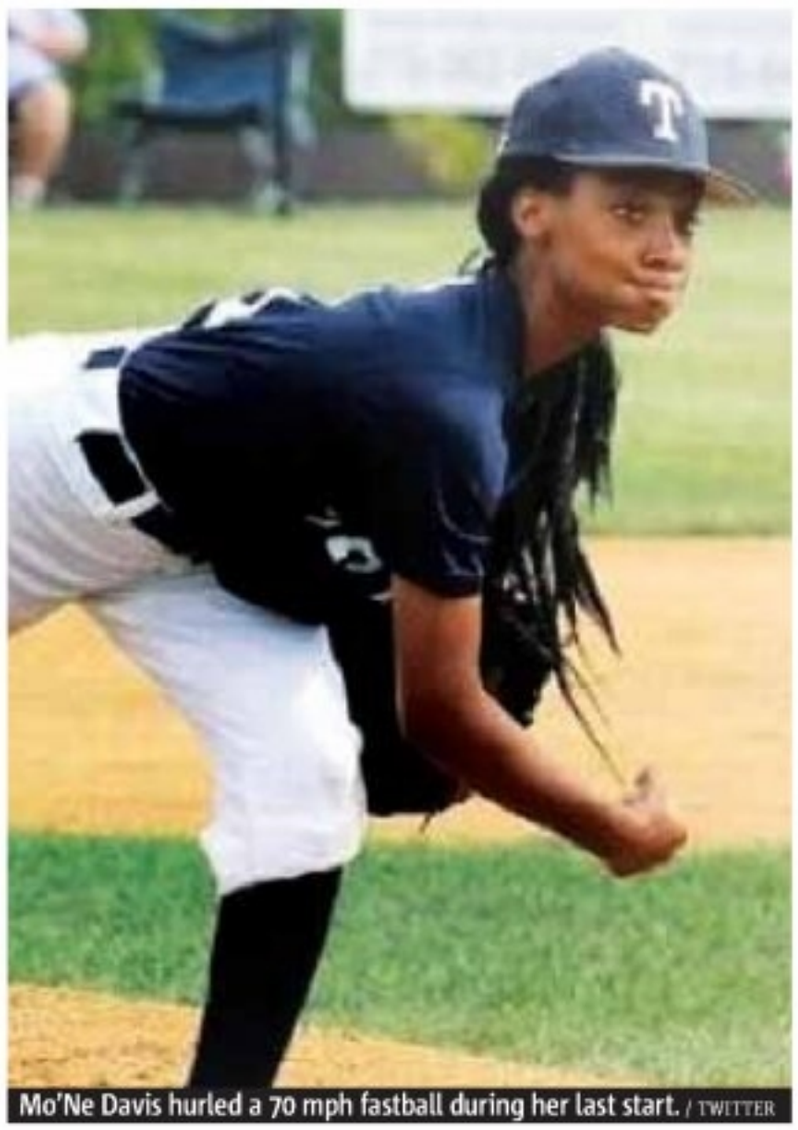
ANGELO CATALDI

SPORTS@METRO.US

Mo'Ne Davis owns the world right now, but there is an ominous undertone to the Little Leaguer's amazing success. Is all of this acclaim healthy for a 13-year-old? Or is she just the latest shooting star in a galaxy of here-today-gone-tomorrow celebrities?

No one wants to deal with these questions because the Taney Dragons are nobly filling a huge hole in our sports calendar. Instead of the depressing Phillies, we have an exciting new team to cheer, and especially a little girl with a big arm and a bigger heart. The Dragons are the next big thing in sports.

When Davis blew a 70 mph fastball past a defenseless hitter to complete her shutout last Friday in Williamsport, ESPN was every bit as excited as her delirious mom. They had a star to promote, an attraction that would build ratings for the Little League World Series. Suddenly, Davis is not just some girl playing baseball; now she's helping the Disney Corp. make budget. Mo'Ne Davis is a charming young athlete whose every move is being analyzed on national TV by former big-leaguer Barry Larkin, whose every pitch is being timed by radar guns, whose every word is being processed to build an image and market a product. Is she really ready for this?



Mo'Ne Davis hurled a 70 mph fastball during her last start. / TWITTER

Davis herself pointed out the other day that she never imagined she would be a role model at 13. She shouldn't be. Davis should be a little kid playing baseball without the pressure of a sports world always looking for something new to sell.

Enjoy this Taney Dragons story at your own peril, Philadelphia. More times than not, these fairy tales don't end well.

Visit **Metro.us** to read why Angelo Cataldi is worried about the Eagles.

Idle thoughts ...

What else is eating at Angelo Cataldi this week?

- Curtis Marsh is one of the worst pass defenders in Eagles history. Just check the tape of last Friday's game in New England. If this overmatched cornerback makes the team, the Birds are in big trouble.
- Former Phillie fan favorite Jayson Werth was arrested last week for reckless driving after being clocked at 105 mph in a 55 mph zone. He might have gotten celebrity treatment, but apparently none of the Virginia law enforcement officers recognized him under all that hair.
- Cary Williams apologized last weekend to Patriots coach Bill Belichick for calling him a cheater. Belichick was fined $500,000 for Spygate, so exactly what was the Eagles corner sorry about, telling the truth?

3 SPORTS

McCoy practices

McCoy back after hurting toe

LeSean McCoy missed Sunday's practice with "a small version of turf toe" but was back on the field Monday. "[Sunday] it was really, really hurting pretty bad," McCoy said. "It felt a little better [Monday], so I went for it." McCoy plans to play against the Steelers in Thursday's third preseason game.

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Cataldi on the Eagles

Penalties could kill the Birds this season

CHIP KELLY AND THE EAGLES HAVE A PENALTY PROBLEM. GETTY IMAGES

Watching the Eagles in a preseason game this summer has already become a surreal experience. So far, August is the month when logic took a vacation. For example, the NFL is in the process of repairing a game that is not broken, but is at the very height of its popularity. Commissioner Roger Goodell has empowered officials to decorate every field with yellow projectiles — dozens of penalty flags promoting offense at the expense of everything else.

In the first week of the preseason, refs threw 338 flags, up from 218 a year ago. That's an increase of 32 percent. Last Friday, the Eagles had 15 penalties called against them. Are we having fun yet?

Chip Kelly somehow has been blindsided by this new mandate. Isn't Kelly, by his very nature, usually ahead of the curve on trends like this?

"If you can't play within the rules, you can't play in this league," he said last weekend. Point taken, but then why hasn't that message gotten through to his players? No NFL team has more flags so far than the Eagles. ANGELO CATALDI

Cataldi. Sandberg has the worst job in all of Philadelphia sports

Things continue to trend downward for Ryne Sandberg and the Phillies, who are stuck in last place. / GETTY IMAGES

It is now official. The worst job in Philadelphia sports is manager of the Phillies. Ryne Sandberg is trapped between bosses in denial and players in decline. He is hopelessly out of contention for anything meaningful this season, and yet he is still trying to win games. And now even his job security is in question.

With the Phils 15 games under .500 and 11 games out of the final wild card playoff spot at the time, GM Ruben Amaro Jr. declared last Thursday that his priority was to win baseball games, not develop young players. He said there would come a point, perhaps, when that focus would change, but not yet. Definitely not yet.

Is he insane? Has Amaro watched his dysfunctional roster sputter through game after game, week after week, for two seasons now? Or are he and president Dave Montgomery so chained to the past that they cannot see the obvious truth?

As a result of this bizarre win-now edict, Sandberg has been under instructions to play Ryan Howard at the expense of Darin Ruf, and to retain Jonathan Papelbon as closer while Ken Giles loses valuable experience in the role. Journeyman pitcher Jerome Williams, 32, is starting games instead of … anyone, really. Dom Brown is still clogging the lineup most days, for no good reason.

There is incompetence, and then there is what we're witnessing right now with the Phillies. In recent weeks, Sandberg has become a prime target of critics. There is even talk that the first-year manager needs to go, too, in a clean sweep of the decision-makers at the end of the season. ANGELO CATALDI

Final thought

"Well, if Ryne Sandberg does get fired, it will not be a cold-blooded execution. At this point, it will be a mercy killing." Cataldi

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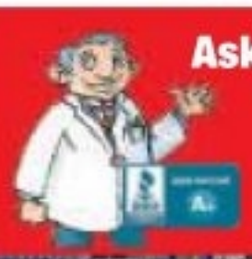
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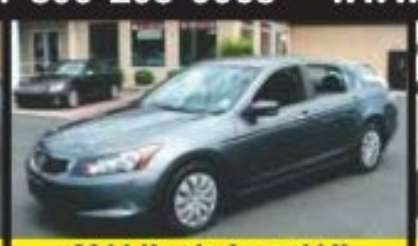

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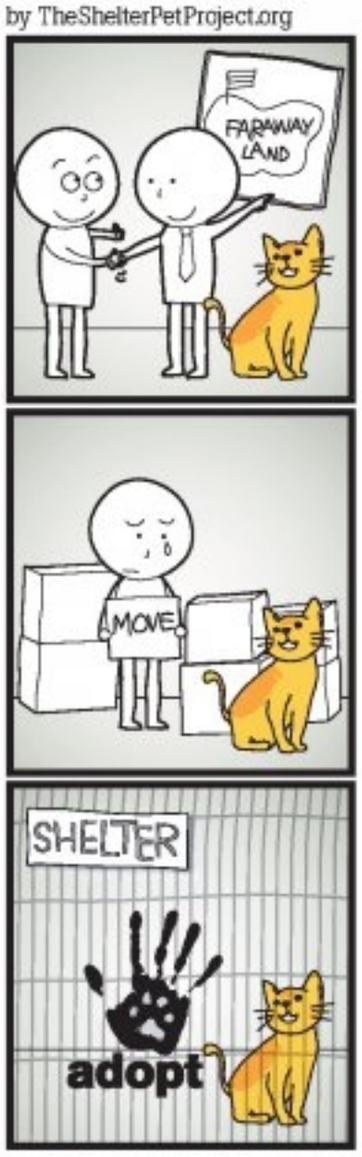

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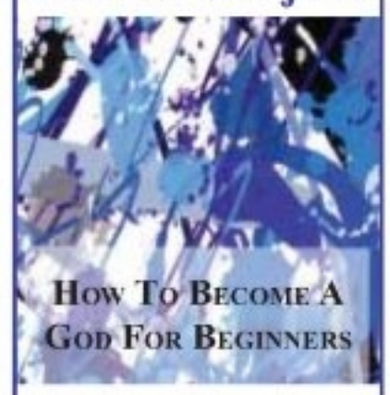

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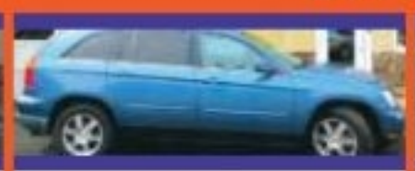
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